MIT's Oldest and Largest Newspaper



WEATHER, p. 2

Snow then clearing



SUN: 50°F | 33°F Mostly sunny

Volume 130, Number 10 tech.mit.edu Friday, March 5, 2010

# Medical may cut overnight care

# Community care proposed

By Ana Lyons
NEWS EDITOR

MIT Medical has proposed to eliminate its inpatient unit and close its overnight urgent care services by the end of 2010. The space vacated by the inpatient unit would be filled with a new "Community Care Center."

Urgent care currently operates 24 hours a day but would close between 11 p.m. and 7 a.m. under the proposed plan. During these hours trained nurses would run a phone service to advise community members and direct them to local hospitals for overnight care.

Community Care Center nurses would also provide on-site transient care services during the day, coordinate care and hospital discharge plans for patients, organizing community-wide

vaccine clinics, and visit sick students in dorms and fraternity, sorority, and living group houses.

Medical would lay off some nurses by eliminating overnight urgent care and the inpatient unit, but Director of MIT Medical William M. Kettyle said he could not provide an estimate of exactly how many nurses would lose their jobs or how much money Medical would save.

Data collected by Medical in 2009 shows that only 2.6 percent of urgent care visits occurred between the hours of 11 p.m. and 7 a m.

Of these visits, "many...are for convenience, not clinical emergencies," according the Medical website. And, on average, only 10 percent of beds in the inpatient unit were filled at once.

Medical, Page 13



(Top row, L to R) **Ariel A.Torres '11, Vrajesh Y. Modi '11, and lan P.Tracy '11** will be running for the position of Undergraduate Association President. Their running mates are (bottom row, L to R): **Jarrett R. Remsberg '11, Samantha G. Wyman '11, and Pall M. Kornmayer '11**, respectively.

# The end of Northwest Shuttle?

# MIT considers replacing service with EZRide

By Robert McQueen
NEWS EDITOR

MIT is considering shutting down the Northwest Shuttle service, which runs between the MIT graduate dorms north of Vassar St. and west of Massachusetts Ave. and the main academic buildings. MIT would expect Northwest Shuttle riders to instead use EZRide, a shuttle operated by the Charles River Transporation Man-

agement Association that services

most of the same area, according

to Lawrence R. Brutti, the operations manager of MIT Parking and Transportation.

MIT would save the \$200,000 a year it currently spends to operate the Northwest Shuttle, Brutti said. According to Brutti, MIT would probably use the money saved from eliminating the Northwest Shuttle to buy an additional vehicle for the Tech Shuttle service, which runs at full capacity during peak hours. Brutti would also like to replace a couple of older vans with new ones that are handicap accessible.

"It's a good business move," said Brutti. "The goal is to reduce cost while enhancing service."

MIT already pays EZRide \$300,000 a year to give MIT ID holders free access to the shuttle, which normally costs a dollar, Brutti said. Should the Northwest Shuttle stop running, MIT would pay EZRide more to add extra stops on MIT campus and extend its service to include midday hours, he said.

The Northwest Shuttle operates

Northwest Shuttle, Page 10



THE TECH FILE PHOTO

MIT Medical may cut overnight services and open a "Community

Care Center."

#### **IN SHORT**



Erez Lieberman-Aiden, a graduate student in Health Sciences and Technology, wonthe\$30,000 Lemelson-MIT Student Prize

for his work on 3D genome mapping, footwear for the elderly, and linguistics, among other accomplishments. The prize is awarded to a promising student inventor every year.

The UA Presidential and Vice Presidential debate will be held

at the Student Center on Sunday at 8 p.m. on the first floor. This is your chance to ask the candidates tough questions.

David W. Miliband SM '90, the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs of the United Kingdom will be giving the Compton lecture in Kresge Auditorium on Wednesday, March 10 at 3:30 p.m. His talk is titled "The War in Afghanistan: How to End It," and there will be a question and answer segment. Compton lectures are open to the community.

Send news information and tips to news@tech.mit.edu.

# Perault promoted to Captain

Jay A. Perault has been promoted to the rank of Captain of the Patrol Division of the MIT Police. Perault's promotion is effective as of February 10, 2010.

Captain Albert F. Pierce, Jr. remains Chief of Staff for the Police, managing all aspects of the police other than the Patrol Division.

Both Perault and Pierce report to Police Chief John DiFava. DiFava also serves as Director of Facilities Operations and Security and is somewhat removed from the day-to-day operations of the police. DiFava's office is in NE49, at 600 Technology Square, three-quarters of a mile northwest of the police station W89

Perault, 38, has risen to his position through the ranks. He began work at MIT in 1995 and served as a patrolman and a patrol sergeant.

In 2000, Perault left MIT and worked as a software developer for KPMG, the Big Four accounting firm.
In 2002, Perault returned to MIT as a detective, a



VIBIN KUNDUKULAM—THE TECH

**Freshly-minted Police Captain Jay A. Perault** started as an MIT patrol officer and was most recently a detective. He's also a software developer.

position he held until his most recent promotion.

Before MIT. Perault was a patrol officer at Babso

Before MIT, Perault was a patrol officer at Babson College in Wellesley, Mass.

Perault doesn't plan on major changes to the po-

Perault doesn't plan on major changes to the police, and is happy with its performance. It's a department "I'm proud to be in," he said.

## FIVE RESTAURANT WEEK TIPS

Made your reservations yet? Tracy Kambara's tips for making the most of Restaurant Week. ARTS, p. 9

#### **RUN FOR UA OFFICE**

Think the UA is ineffectual? It's up to you to change it. **OPN**, **p. 5** 

#### **YOST: GAME OVER, DEMOCRATS**

Health care reform is dead. You've lost your mandate. Give up. **OPN, p. 4** 



# BAD TASTE WAS SO GROSS YET AWESOME

The Chorallaries had their annual nastyfest last Saturday. (Warning: We have pictures.) ARTS, p. 9

## **SHUTTER ISLAND IS DAMN CREEPY**

And Leonardo
DiCaprio turns in one
of the most intense
performances of his
life. **ARTS**, **p 8** 

#### SECTIONS

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#### Students and professors protest California education cuts

SACRAMENTO — Angered by increases in tuition and cuts in state funding, thousands of students, parents and faculty protested across California on Thursday, demonstrating at colleges, universities and even elementary schools to plead for help with the state's ongoing educational crisis.

Dubbed a "strike and day of action to defend public education" by organizers, the demonstrations were boisterous and occasionally confrontational - campus and building entrances were blocked at several schools — but peaceful.

The largest demonstration took place here on the northern steps of the State Capitol, where more than 1,000 people used drums and bullhorns to try to get their message across.

"How are we going to save the future if we can't even get into our classes?" said Reid Milburn, the president of the Student Senate for California Community Colleges, drawing a large cheer from the crowd, many of whom were students avoiding classes as a means of protest.

California's public education system has been racked by cutbacks in the wake of the state's ongoing financial problems, which include a looming \$20 billion deficit. Layoffs and furloughs have hit many districts and school systems, along with reductions in class sizes, grants, and courses.

– Jesse Mckinley, The New York Times

#### China declares slowdown in military spending

China's official military budget will rise by just 7.5 percent in 2010, a government spokesman said Thursday, a rate that is about half the official increase in recent years and the first to fall below 10 percent since 1989.

The announcement by Li Zhaoxing, a spokesman for the National People's Congress, China's legislature, gave no explanation for the slowdown. Some analysts speculated, however, that China's huge economic stimulus program and other efforts to address unemployment and welfare had eaten into monies that in a normal year would go toward defense.

It is also possible that China reduced the growth of its publicly acknowledged defense spending to help allay international concerns about its rising power, which have been fueled in part by heavy investment in new weapons systems.

While China's government has disclosed more information about military spending in recent years, much of its spending plans remains secret.

> – Michael Wines and Jonathan Ansfield, The New York Times

#### IMF help for Greece is a risk

Greece skirted disaster this week by convincing investors and politicians that it is finally on track to fix its finances.

But even before the dust settles, the government is setting the stage for a potential conflict with Germany, France and other European governments that may raise doubts about the sustainability of the euro project.

In the last two days, Greece's finance minister has threatened to turn to the International Monetary Fund for a bailout if Chancellor Angela Merkel of Germany and other European politicians resist pledging aid to help Greece cope with its newfound frugality. Asking the fund for help could create a new round of financial and political turmoil by sending the message that Europe cannot resolve its own problems, analysts said.

"It would be damaging for the euro zone going forward because it would sow seeds of doubt about whether this is really a currency union, or just a group of countries that share a currency," said Simon Tilford, the chief economist of the Center for European Reform in London.

— Sewell Chan and Liz Alderman, The New York Times

# Bracing for tepid job numbers, House grants tax breaks for hirers

By Carl Hulse

THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON — The House on Thursday approved a \$15 billion measure intended to spur job creation by granting tax breaks to businesses that hire workers, as Democrats, bracing for new jobless figures, tried to show that Congress was doing something about stubborn unemployment.

Democrats pushed through the measure on a mainly party-line vote of 217-201. They characterized the measure, which also funneled an extra \$20 billion into road and bridge construction, as just the first step in a broad legislative push to bolster the economy and encourage hiring.

Rep. Bob Etheridge, D-N.C., said the bill was "really all about our three most important priorities in this Congress: jobs, jobs, jobs." He estimated that the measure could create 1 million jobs.

Though the measure attracted bipartisan support when approved by the Senate last week, House Republicans were dismissive, saying it was cobbled together by Democrats for political purposes and would do little to spur new employment. And many Democrats, even though they backed the measure, considered it far too limited in scope.

Just six Republicans joined 211 Democrats in backing the measure; 166 Republicans and 35 Democrats were opposed.

"This is a no-jobs bill, this is a faux-jobs bill, this is a snow-jobs bill," said Rep. Steven C. LaTourette,

Democrats in the House and Senate are anxious to score some victories on job-related legislation even as they continue to be preoccupied with the fate of their health care overhaul. The House-passed bill, which also extends the federal highway program and provides federal subsidies for public works bonds, was scaled back from a much larger measure in the Senate in an effort to speed it through Congress.

But even advancing the narrower measure has vexed Democrats. Senate Democrats had hoped the House would simply pass its measure so it would land on President Barack Obama's desk before a new

jobless report on Friday.

But House Democrats wanted several changes. They adjusted the bill to cover its costs more completely, to satisfy Democratic fiscal hawks. To attract liberal lawmakers who contended the measure was too meager, they added a provision to generate business for minority contractors. The revisions mean the measure will have to be reconsidered by the Senate, where it was unclear whether Republicans would seek to slow its progress.

The centerpiece of the legislation is a plan to exempt businesses that hire people who have been out of work for at least 60 days from paying the 6.2 percent payroll tax on those employees through year-end. It also grants a \$1,000 tax credit if the workers are kept on for a full year.

Opinion is divided on whether the approach is effective or simply gives businesses a break on workers they would have hired anyway. But lawmakers said that given the dismal unemployment picture, they were willing to give it a try, and estimated the tax breaks would put 300,000 people to work.

# Deadly attacks on soldiers at polls mar early voting in Iraq

By Steven Lee Myers and Marc Santora THE NEW YORK TIMES

BAGHDAD — Iraq opened its polls early on Thursday for hundreds of thousands of soldiers and police officers responsible for protecting the country's electorate, and they came under assault themselves.

In all, three attacks in Baghdad, two in Mosul and another in Divala struck near polling stations where Iraqi forces mustered to vote, a potentially ominous foreshadowing of the violence extremists have vowed to carry out in an effort to mar Sunday's pivotal election of a new Par-

There were other problems that could also undermine the elections and their legitimacy in the eyes of Iraqis and the world. Despite months of preparations by election officials and the United Nations, irregularities were reported at polling stations across the country, with thousands of names of soldiers and police officers missing from voter rolls.

"This is an attack on our freedom to vote," one police officer in Falluja said, failing to find his name on the lists of eligible voters. "Is this how the police are rewarded for their sacrifices?"

The first day of voting, widely viewed as a measure of Iraq's still uncertain transition from dictatorship to democracy after the American invasion seven years ago, was one of jarring contrasts. Soldiers in one part of Baghdad joyously waved their weapons and purple-stained fingers after casting their ballots, while only a few miles away, their colleagues picked through debris and bits of flesh in the gruesome aftermath of a suicide attack that struck a truckload of 27 soldiers who had just voted.

At least a dozen people were killed across Baghdad - seven of them soldiers - and scores more were wounded, according to official counts that soldiers and police officers on the scene suggested understated the actual toll.

Compared to the nihilistic bloodshed of the darkest years of the conflict here, and some of the largescale attacks that Iraq has witnessed in recent months, the violence was small in scale. But with the American military largely operating in the background, it underscored the country's precariousness ahead of the vote. In Diyala, a volatile province northeast of Baghdad, fliers and CDs scattered in the streets threatened to kill anyone who voted.

The government has undertaken overwhelming security precautions, with months of planning and training with American military advisers. Prime Minister Nuri Kamal al-Maliki, who faces a fierce contest to win a second term, declared a holiday from Thursday to Sunday.

#### **WEATHER**

#### Brighter weekend ahead

By Roman Kowch

A series of slow moving storms has affected Boston's weather for the past week. Overcast skies, breezy conditions, and intermittent precipitation have dominated the recent weather. These storms have also caused continuous flooding along the east coast of Massachusetts. The combination of ocean swells and high astronomical tide has put some coastal roads un-

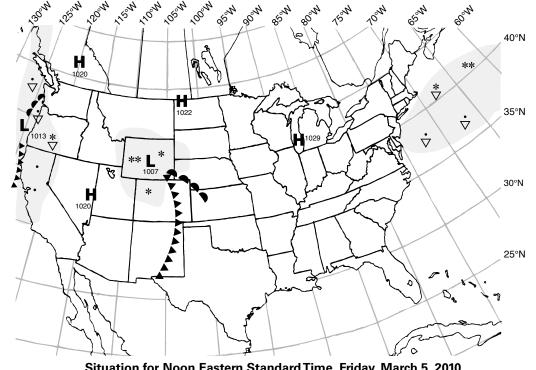
derwater. However, the ocean drear should end by the start of the weekend. For today, residual precipitation will linger as the nor'easter over the west Atlantic finally begins to depart. In its wake, an area of high pressure will arrive in the northeastern U.S. A pattern of clear  $skies\, and\, warmer\, temperatures$ is in store by Saturday and into the middle of next week. This should keep the mythical and meteorological March "lion" under control for now!

#### **Extended Forecast**

Today: A few snow showers in the morning. Clearing through the day. High 44°F (7°C). North wind 15-20 mph.

**Tonight**: Mostly clear. Low 29°F (-2°C). North wind 10–15 mph. **Tomorrow**: Sunny. High 52°F (11°C). North wind 10–15 mph. Sunday: Mostly sunny. Highs around 50°F (10°C). Lows around 31°F (-1°C).

Monday: Partly sunny. Highs around 50°F (10°C). Lows around 33°F (1°C).



Situation for Noon Eastern Standard Time, Friday, March 5, 2010

| Weather Systems | Weather Fronts               | Precipita | tion S | ymbols | Othe  | r Symbols                             |
|-----------------|------------------------------|-----------|--------|--------|-------|---------------------------------------|
| High Pressure   | Trough Warm Front            | Showers   | Snow * | Rain   | ス     | Fog<br>Thunderstorm                   |
| § Hurricane     | Cold Front  Stationary Front | Moderate  | **     | ••     | Meteo | Haze<br>piled by MIT<br>prology Staff |

# China's spectacular real estate boom may presage bubble

By David Barboza

THE NEW YORK TIMES

SHANGHAI — The spacious duplex comes with crocodile-skin bedposts, hand-carved bronze doors inlaid with Swarovski crystal lights — and a \$45 million price tag.

It is still on the market, but Charles Tong, the developer of Tomson Riviera, a luxury riverfront complex in the heart of the financial district here, says he is having no trouble finding takers for similarly priced units.

"We're selling three to four apartments every month," said Tong, seated in a white Versace easy chair. "Now, people here want something more luxurious; they'd like a new lifestyle."

Everyone agrees China is in the middle of a spectacular real estate boom. The question is whether it is in the middle of a rapidly growing real estate bubble.

When other recent booms collapsed — in the United States, for instance — they depressed entire economies. In China's case, a bursting bubble could affect much of the

world. China is the fastest-growing large economy and, so far, a main engine pulling the world out of recession.

Beijing is clearly concerned. Authorities have recently moved to rein in the easy credit that has helped finance China's hyperdevelopment, including making it more difficult for home buyers to take out a second mortgage.

Last year, a record \$560 billion of residential property was sold in China, an increase of 80 percent from the year before, according to government statistics that are widely considered reliable. And with prices soaring, developers are scrambling to build more mansions, villas and high-rise apartments with names like Rich Gate, Park Avenue and Palais de Fortune.

Signs of exuberance are everywhere. A Shanghai investor recently bought 54 apartments in a single day; a villa sold for \$30 million last year; and in December a consortium of developers paid more than \$3.5 billion for a huge tract of land in Guangzhou, one of the highest prices paid for any property, anywhere.

In the city of Tianjin, in north China, developers have created a \$3 billion "floating city," a series of islands built on a natural reservoir, featuring villas, shopping malls, a water amusement park and what they say will be the world's largest indoor ski resort.

"This is wild," said Andy Xie, a former Morgan Stanley economist who is now an independent analyst. "By all the traditional measures, like rental yield, this is a bubble."

Speculators are snapping up properties on the expectation that prices will continue to rise, as prices have nearly every year for more than a decade. And powerful developers are working with local governments to transform old cities into urban dreamscapes.

But Shanghai, China's wealthiest and most dazzling city, is the epicenter of the boom. Prices here have risen more than 150 percent since 2003, pushing the price of a typical 1,100-square-foot apartment up to \$200,000, according to real estate experts. (Shanghai residents typically earn less than \$5,000 a year.)

# As states shrink budgets, concern over trimming prison populations

By Monica Davey

THE NEW YORK TIME

In the rush to save money in grim budgetary times, states nationwide have trimmed their prison populations by expanding parole programs and early releases. But the result — more convicted felons on the streets, not behind bars — has unleashed a backlash, and state officials now find themselves trying to maneuver between saving money and maintaining the public's sense of safety.

In February, lawmakers in Oregon temporarily suspended a program they had expanded last year to let prisoners shorten their sentences for good behavior (and to save \$6 million) after an anticrime group aired radio advertisements portraying the outcomes in alarming tones. "A woman's asleep in her own apartment," a narrator said. "Suddenly, she's attacked by a registered sex offender and convicted burglar."

In Illinois, Gov. Patrick J. Quinn, a Democrat, described as "a big mistake" an early release program that sent some convicts who had committed violent crimes home from prison in a matter of weeks. Of more than 1,700 prisoners released over three months, more than 50 were soon accused of new violations.

An early release program in Colorado meant to save \$19 million has scaled back its ambitions by \$14 million after officials found far fewer prisoners than anticipated to be wise release risks. In more than five months, only 264 prisoners were released, though the program was originally designed to shrink the prison population by 2,600 over two years.

A victims' rights group in California sued last month to block a state law that expands the credits prisoners can receive to shorten their sentences, and prosecutors in Michigan are challenging release decisions there.

"We're not saying we shouldn't reduce the prison population, but we're saying you have to be very careful, and they're making mistakes left, right and sideways," said Jessica R. Cooper, the Oakland County prosecutor in Michigan, where the state prison population shrank by 3,200 inmates last year and where the parole rate is the highest in 16 years.

"You cannot measure those mistakes in terms of money," Cooper said.

The changes in Michigan have been among the most pronounced, and they provide a glimpse into difficulties that could be faced by officials in about half the states, which have tinkered with parole, early release programs and sentencing laws or are considering doing so.

Authorities in some places say their changes are driven less by money than by the need to fix systems that are not working, and that such efforts were under way, in some cases, before the recession.

# Coupling solar energy to natural gas, and hoping for the best of both

By Jad Mouawad
THE NEW YORK TIMES

INDIANTOWN, FLA. — In former swamplands teaming with otters and wild hogs, one of the nation's biggest utilities is running an experiment in the future of renewable power.

Across 500 acres north of West Palm Beach, the FPL Group utility is assembling a life-size Erector Set of 190,000 shimmering mirrors and thousands of steel pylons that stretch as far as the eye can see. When it is completed by the end of the year, this vast project will be the world's second-largest solar plant.

But that is not its real novelty. The solar array is being grafted onto the back of the nation's largest fossil-fuel power plant, fired by natural gas. It is an experiment in whether conventional power generation can be married with renewable power in a way that lowers costs and spares the environment.

This project is among a handful of innovative hybrid designs meant to use the sun's power as an adjunct to coal or gas in producing electricity. While other solar projects already use small gas-fired turbines to provide backup power for cloudy days or at night, this is the first time that a conventional plant is being retrofitted with the latest solar technology on such an industrial scale.

The project's advantages are obvious: Electricity generated from the sun will allow FPL to cut natural gas use and reduce carbon dioxide emissions. It will provide extra power when it is most needed: when the summer sun is shining, Floridians are cranking up their air-conditioning and electricity demand is at its highest

The plant also serves as a reallife test on how to reduce the cost of solar power, which remains much more expensive than most other forms of electrical generation. FPL Group, the parent company of Florida Power and Light, expects to cut costs by about 20 percent compared with a stand-alone solar facility, since it does not have to build a new steam turbine or new high-power transmission lines.

"We'd love to tell you that solar power is as economic as fossil fuels, but the reality is that it is not," Lewis Hay III, FPL's chairman and chief executive, said on a recent plant tour. "We have got to figure out ways to get costs down. As we saw with wind power, a lot has to do with scale."

For solar power, scale is still a relative term. At its peak, the solar plant will be able to generate 75 megawatts of power, enough for about 11,000 homes. But that is dwarfed by the adjacent gas plant, which can produce about 3,800 megawatts of power. Utilities are being pulled in different directions. They must ensure that the lights remain on at all times as well as provide the lowest-cost power to their customers.

# Flavoring ingredient recalled; risk of illness seen as low

Thousands of processed foods — from soups to hot dogs to dips — contain a flavoring ingredient contaminated with salmonella, but government food safety officials say most affected products are safe because cooking, either before or after sale, eliminates the rick

Basic Food Flavors of Las Vegas, sold the ingredient, called hydrolyzed vegetable protein, to food manufacturers across the country. But one of the company's customers found salmonella in supplies sent from Basic Food Flavors, and the customer alerted the Food and Drug Administration, which in February inspected the Las Vegas plant.

The inspection uncovered salmonella in the company's processing equipment, leading Basic Flavors to recall all its hydrolyzed vegetable protein made since Sept. 17, 2009. As a result, food manufacturers have recalled more than three dozen products but more such recalls are likely.

Among the foods being recalled are Castella Imports' Castella Chicken Soup Base, Marzetti's Southwest Ranch Veggie Dip and Follow Your Heart's Curried Tofu.

Health officials have yet to find anyone who has been sickened by the contamination.

Dr. Jeff Farrar, the food agency's associate commissioner for food safety, said, "We believe the risk represented by this recall is very low to consumers."

— Gardiner Harris, The New York Times

# Closing of highway rest stops has Arizonans seeing red

PHOENIX — The people of Arizona kept their upper lips stiff when officials mortgaged off the state's executive office tower; they remained calm as lawmakers pondered privatizing death row.

But then the state took away their toilets, and residents began to revolt.

"Why don't they charge a quarter or something?" said Connie Lucas, who lives in Pine, Ariz., about a two-and-a-half-hour drive from here. "There was one rest stop between here and Phoenix, and we really needed it."

Arizona has the largest budget gap in the country when measured as a percentage of its overall budget, and the state Department of Transportation was \$100 million in the red last fall when it decided to close 13 of the state's 18 highway rest stops.

But the move has unleashed a torrent of telephone calls and e-mail messages to state lawmakers, newspapers and the Department of Transportation decrying the lost toilets — one of the scores of small indignities among larger hardships that residents of embattled states face as governments scramble to shore up their finances.

"People in this state are mad about this," said state Rep. Daniel Patterson, D-Tucson, who has sponsored a bill that would allow other entities to reopen and maintain the rest stops. "This bill may have the broadest support among members of any bill this year."

— Jennifer Steinhauer, The New York Times

# Obama takes health care deadline to Democrats and insurance companies

WASHINGTON — President Barack Obama, beginning a full-court press for his health care overhaul, met Thursday with insurance industry executives and some selected House Democrats, as party leaders on Capitol Hill struggled to figure out whether they can meet the president's fast-track timetable for enacting legislation within the next few weeks.

One day after Obama vowed to do "everything in my power" to get a bill passed, his health secretary, Kathleen Sebelius, convened insurance executives at the White House and pressed them to release actuarial data justifying their rate increases. The president stopped by — an appearance that was unscheduled, but clearly orchestrated — to deliver a letter from an Ohio woman and cancer survivor who had dropped her insurance after a 40 percent rate increase.

Obama spent the afternoon in back-to-back private sessions with two separate groups of House Democrats: liberals and members of the various minority caucuses, many of whom are uncomfortable with the bill because it lacks a "public option" or government-backed insurance plan, and leaders of the centrist New Democrat Coalition.

— Sheryl Gay Stolberg and Robert Pear, The New York Times

# No-Child law is a highlight of hearing on education

WASHINGTON — Secretary of Education Arne Duncan is presiding over the rollout of the largest competitive grant program in his department's history, a vast expansion of the government's direct loan program for college students and sweeping new expenditures on failing schools, teacher quality and other big initiatives.

Everyone agrees it is a hugely ambitious agenda.

So it was not surprising that the first question Duncan faced from lawmakers on Wednesday in an appearance before Congress was whether the Obama administration would also try this year to rewrite, or reauthorize, the main law on federal policy on public schools, No Child Left Behind.

"Every Monday or Tuesday when we come back to Congress, my colleagues come up and ask when we're going to reauthorize, and between us, I don't know if we have a complete answer yet," said Rep. George Miller, D-Calif., chairman of the House Education and Labor Committee. "Our position is we would really like to get this done this session of Congress."

Is that your position? Miller then asked Duncan.

The secretary replied: "That is absolutely the goal. There is so much we can do to fix the current law."

— Sam Dillon, The New York Times



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#### **LETTERS**

# Tech can do without sex column

Far be it from me to silence a columnist from this bastion of shrewd and independent thought, but "Various States of

Undress," your sex-advice piece, is getting out of hand. I admire M.'s desire to talk about issues not normally covered in *The Tech*, but it has become appallingly apparent that she is only interested in airing out her dirty laundry, so to speak.

I understand she's been through some hard times, but a campus newspaper does not seem like the appropriate forum for her to complain about how much her life sucks. Right now the only advice she's giving out is for men to avoid her, lest they find themselves torn apart publicly by a writer with the least effective pseudonym ever. There must be hordes of people more qualified to write a relationships column at MIT, and if none of them want to do it, I certainly can get by without one. Craigslist's missed connections page is far more amusing.

— Waciuma W. Maina '10

FRIDAY, MARCH 5, 2010

# Get over it

# Democrats fought the good fight on health care and lost. It's time to move on.

By Keith Yost
STAFF WRITER

Thirteen months ago, I wrote an article for this newspaper entitled "Screw Bipartisanship," in which I claimed there was a fundamental disagreement between Democrats and Republicans on the most important problem facing health care markets. I suggested that, rather than fruitlessly try to find common ground, Democrats should ignore the Republican point of view and muscle through legislation that would mandate individual insurance coverage.

Now, after watching the much vaunted "Health Care Summit," a publicly televised sit-down between Republicans and Democrats in which both sides talked past each other and nearly everyone received poor marks from FactCheck, I have a thank you, an apology, and a suggestion. Thank you, Democrats, for taking my advice. Sorry it didn't work out. Now move on.

Many on the left would like to continue the push for health care reform. Their plan is to have the House of representatives pass the Senate health care bill that made it through before Scott Brown was elected, and then use a legislative loophole called reconciliation to modify the bill after the fact so as to dodge a potential Senate filibuster.

This plan is poor for two reasons: First, reconciliation is a budgetary process not intended for use in this manner. Abusing it would not only be an affront to our democratic system, it would make permanent our current state of gridlock by showing that unless Republicans filibuster every bill with budget implications, Democrats will have the power to "reconcile" what does pass into something quite different. Second, the House lacks the votes to pass the Senate bill. After some resignations and defections (most notably by pro-life Democrats who interpret the Senate language as providing funding for abortions) Democrats will find themselves nine or ten yeas short of suc-

The Democratic counter-argument is that reconciliation is the best that can be done with a broken system. It is unfair, they assert, that they should have to muster sixty votes in the Senate to pass legislation, and so long as Republicans continue their vindictive obstinacy, the GOP should be the ones to blame for whatever measures are

taken to work around them.

But let's be honest: Democrats did not seriously attempt bipartisanship. Barack Obama handed the reins of health care reform to liberals like Nancy Pelosi who, behind closed doors and without Republican input, wrote a bill so left wing that it couldn't secure even a simple majority. Between Ar-

# After some resignations and defections Democrats will find themselves nine or ten yeas short of success.

len Specter's defection and Scott Brown's election, all Democrats needed to do was vote down the party line in order to pass legislation, and even that was asking too much. If Democrats can't convince their own party of the bill's merits, how seriously can we treat their feigned dismay that Joseph Cao was the only Republican to vote with them?

To illustrate, take the issue of tort reform. If you ask a Republican what he considers the top three problems with health care, you are practically guaranteed to hear medical malpractice as one of the answers, and vet, neither the House nor Senate bill contains tort reform. Perhaps Democrats simply thought it was a waste of time - after all, many experts, including the Congressional Budget Office, are pessimistic about the prospect of tort reform significantly lowering health care costs. But while critics say tort reform is low impact, they also admit it doesn't carry many downside risks. Even if Democrats believed it to be ineffective, had they ever had any intention of bringing Republicans into the fold, they would have at least placated them with this one harmless concession. How is it that after a year of discussion and supposed effort at bipartisanship, Democrats failed to integrate the most common Republican idea?

Secondly, the filibuster is a legitimate component of our legislative system. Four years ago when the shoe was on the other foot and it was the Republicans who were frustrated that they couldn't pass their bills, Democrats (including Barack Obama) defended the filibuster as the sacred right of the minority. They were right then, and the

Republicans are right now. If one wants to complain about not being able to pass legislation with simple majorities, they might as well go after the presidential veto too, with which a single individual can block as many as 66 senators and 289 representatives, and can sometimes block all of them if the socalled "pocket veto" is available. The Senate rules are there for a reason. Our system of government was designed with checks and balances intended to promote incrementalism and moderation. The Republicans are not abusing it — they genuinely believe the bill is bad, and the only reason they feel confident enough to use the filibuster is that after winning elections in New Jersey, Virginia, and Massachusetts, and seeing poll numbers putting them ahead in several Senate and House races, they (rightly) believe the public wants this and will back

What Democrats are forgetting is that the people, and their ability to vote legislators out of office, are the ultimate check on abuses of our law-making rules. When senators act against the public interest, it is the public's responsibility to bring them

#### When senators act against the public interest, it is the public's responsibility to bring them to task.

to task. The way to avoid a filibuster is not to wreck our long-standing system of government, but to take the case to the voters. Democrats tried that and failed. There is no middle ground on which to forge a compromise. Health care reform is over.

There are plenty of topics on which Democrats and Republicans can work together, but we cannot begin productive legislation until the health care debate put to rest, and the longer we dwell on the topic, the harder our divisions will become. I would like nothing more than to pass the Senate bill as-is, but I see no chance of that ever happening, and the costs of trying to do so are too high.

It was a good attempt. It was worth it to try. But now, for the good of the country, we must move on.

# Undergraduate Association Presidential Ticket Debate Sunday March 7th, 8:00 pm, Student Center 1st Floor

Ideas for questions? Send them to opinion@tech.mit.edu by 4pm today!

#### **OPINION POLICY**

**Editorials** are the official opinion of *The Tech*. They are written by the editorial board, which consists of Chairman Steve Howland, Editor in Chief Jeff Guo, Managing Editor David M. Templeton, Executive Editor Natasha Plotkin, Opinion Editors Joseph Maurer and Ethan Solomon, Contributing Editor Michael McGraw-Herdeg, and Advisory Board member Andrew T. Lukmann.

**Dissents** are the signed opinions of editorial board members choosing to publish their disagreement with the editorial.

Letters to the editor, columns, and editorial cartoons are written by individuals and represent the opinion of the author, not necessarily that of the newspaper. Electronic submissions are encouraged and should be sent to *letters@tech.mit.edu*. Hard copy submissions should be addressed to The Tech, P.O. Box 397029, Cambridge, Mass. 02139-7029, or sent by interdepartmental mail to Room W20-483. All submissions are due by 4:30 p.m. two days before the date of publication.

Letters, columns, and cartoons must bear the authors' signatures, addresses, and phone numbers. Unsigned letters will

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**Guest columns** are opinion articles submitted by members of the MIT or local community.

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**ON CAMPUS** 

# Why you should care

## Or, what student government can actually do for you

By Ethan Solomon

OPINION EDITOR

Sometimes it seems like the Undergraduate Association can't do anything for you. After all, isn't it really just the same powerless, ineffectual government-ish organization that couldn't do anything for you in high school, either? At the end of the day, doesn't the MIT administration really call the shots? Maybe. But that doesn't mean that participation in student government isn't valuable for other reasons.

Some people might think that their time would be better spent improving their own situation than participating in a student democracy where other students try and improve your situation for you. After all, this is America, home of the self-made man. Plus, you're one of those super-smart MIT entrepreneurs who's going to save the world and make a killing doing it. So why should you waste your valuable time and limited men-

tal energy thinking about UA policy when you can just forge your own path? You're only here for four years, after all.

But what if the solutions we can come up with collectively can serve you and everyone else better than what you could come up with on your own? What if there is a positive multiplier for working cooperatively? Shouldn't there be some kind of apparatus to organize student efforts around coherent goals? Ostensibly, the UA can do this. But that raises questions of practicality and implementation issues — for every great idea we come up with, financial and bureaucratic roadblocks stand in the way. Fortunately, the point isn't really to see every idea go from theory to practice. The point is to try.

Those who think that their time at MIT would be much better spent worrying about themselves, rather than working collectively as a student body via a student government, are laziness enablers.

Those who think that their time at MIT would be much better spent worrying about themselves... are laziness enablers.

For many reasons, it's much harder to care about campus issues and to try to work together to solve them. So most people don't bother, don't care, and take the easy way out — they just worry about themselves. But if MIT has been doing it's job, most students should realize that the easy way out is never, ever as rewarding as a more difficult option. That's why our school has a reputation for rigor and a reputation for producing successful scientists and engineers. It's not a coincidence.

So even if you do believe that the ad-

ministration will put a halt to any great and student-focused idea that the UA would try and implement, it's still important to give it a shot. It's a learning experience and it exercises the part of your brain that tells you to try something not because it's easy, but because it's a challenge. This part of your brain is why you chose MIT, but now that you're here, don't let it atrophy.

Don't be lazy — give a damn about the UA, student elections, campus community and all that other stuff you don't really care about now. If you're feeling particularly inspired, run as a write-in candidate for UA president this season. And as much as you tell yourself now that you'll be a proper citizen brimming with a sense of civic duty when you get out into the real world, it won't matter a bit unless you've gotten some practice at it. So start caring now.

On Campus runs every Friday and features campus-related content from The Tech's Opinion staff.

**UA UPDATE** 

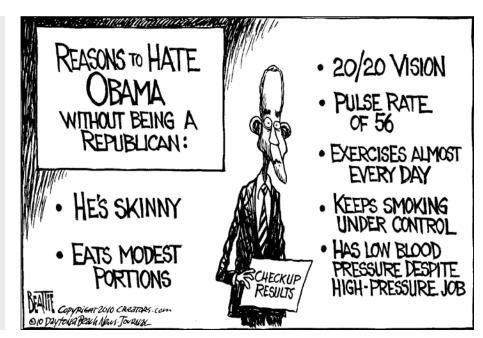
# Campaigning has begun!

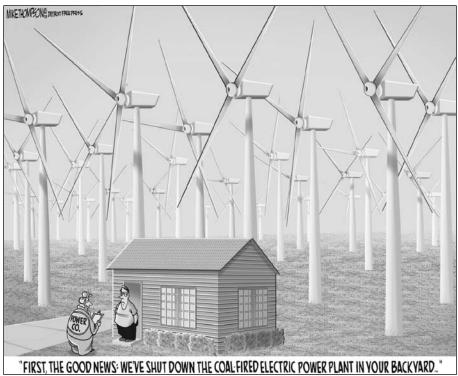
Senate met on Monday, March 1. Senate members passed 41 U.A.S. 4.2: Bill to Create Midterm Reviews, which created a review process for members of the UA Executive Committee between the fall and spring semesters. Senate also passed 41 U.A.S. 10.1: Bill to Task the Treasurer with Reimbursement Responsibilities. Ashley M. Nash '11 was confirmed as the Vice Chair for the Special Projects Committee. Maggie K. Delano '10 and Timothy R. Jenks '13 were approved as Chair and Vice Chair of the Nominations Committee, respectively.

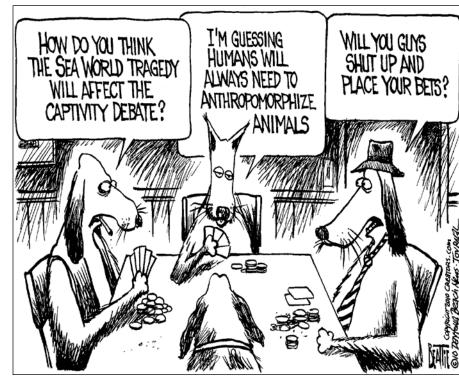
Senate requested the report from the Financial Policy Review Committee to be ready for discussion at the next meeting on Monday, March 8.

Campaigning has begun! Candidates need to submit proof of registration in the UA office by today at 5 p.m. The UAP/UAVP Debate will be held on Sunday, March 7 at 8 p.m. on the first floor of the Student Center. Questions about elections should be e-mailed to *ua-elect@mit.edu*.

— Elizabeth A. Denys, UA Secretary General





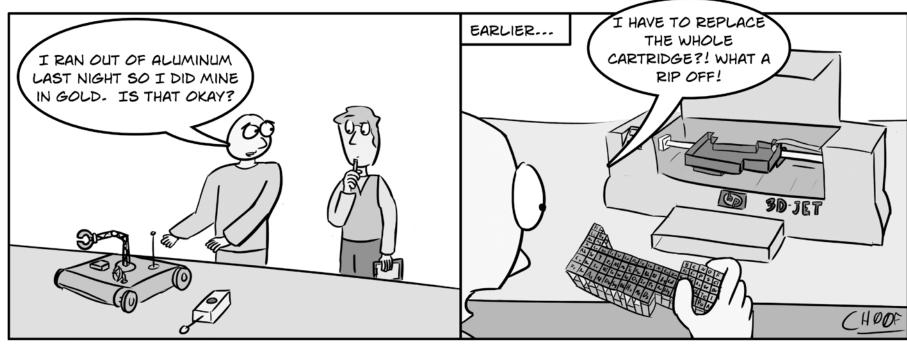






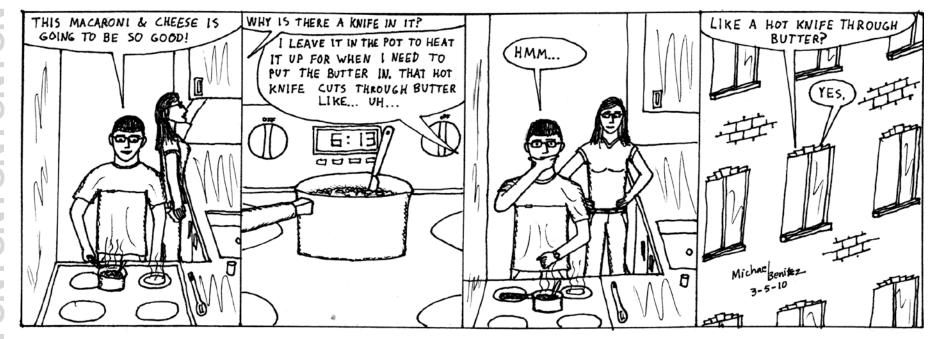
# FUN FUN FUN FUN FUN JN FUN FUN FUN FUN FUN

## Steal My Comic by Michael Ciuffo



STEALMYCOMIC-COM

# Help Desk by Michael Benitez



# **Dilbert** by Scott Adams





# **Crossword Puzzle**

Solution, page 14

#### **ACROSS**

- 1 Miss Lane's man
- 5 Mob enforcers 10 Challenge
- 14 SSS designation 15 Snooze alarm option
- 16 Inventor Sikorsky
- 17 Exploits
- 18 Ms. Verdugo
- 19 Lubricates
- 20 Redundant amount of land?
- 23 Ethical Culture founder
- 24 Gas: pref.
- 25 Big galoot
- 27 Observe
- 28 Nautical notes
- 32 California sea 34 Nabokov title
- 36 Morays
- 37 Redundant amount of chocolate?
- 41 Bugle call
- 42 Works out
- 43 Mountain ridges
- 46 QED word
- 47 \_\_ Na Na 50 ATM maker

- 51 Anatomical pouch
- 53 \_\_ Park, CO
- 55 Redundant number of jalopies?
- 60 Nov. honorees
- 61 Bilko, briefly
- 62 French religious title 63 Scraps for Fido
- 64 On-line transaction
- 65 Depilatory brand
- 66 Future atty.'s hurdle
- 67 Eyelid woes
- 68 Editorial order

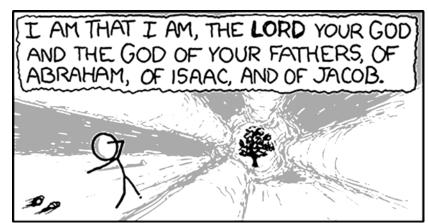
#### **DOWN**

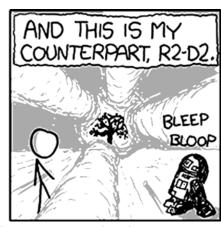
- 1 Eucalyptus residents
- 2 Put into cipher
- 3 Annoy
- 4 French cup
- 5 Not kosher 6 Beatles movie
- 7 Friendly lead-in
- 8 Type of salami
- 9 Stirrup bone
- 10 Designer Christian
- 11 Stirred up
- 12 Pleasingly plump? 13 Hosp. areas

- 21 Synthetic fiber
- 22 Notable years
- 26 USNA grad.
- 29 Aged
- 30 Nitty-gritty
- 31 Stockpile 33 Camera part
- 34 Excessive libido
- 35 Beyond sight
- 37 Demonstration
- participants 38 Light musical production
- 39 OSS, now
- 40 Paid to play
- 41 Summer shade
- 44 Pseudoscience 45 Mouths off
- 47 Pergolesi's oratorio, "\_\_
- Mater" 48 Jazz pianist Hancock
- 49 State with conviction
- 52 Freewheel
- 54 Peruses
- 56 ADC
- 57 Ravel
- 58 Feast the eyes upon 59 Ann and Ang
- 60 Ref. set member

| 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  |    | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  |    | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
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| 23 |    |    |    |    |    |    |    | 24 |    |    |    | 25 |    | 26 |
| 27 |    |    |    | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |    | 32 |    | 33 |    |    |    |
|    |    |    | 34 |    |    |    |    | 35 |    |    | 36 |    |    |    |
|    | 37 | 38 |    |    |    |    |    |    | 39 | 40 |    |    |    |    |
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| 50 |    |    |    | 51 |    | 52 |    |    |    | 53 | 54 |    |    |    |
|    | 55 |    | 56 |    |    |    | 57 | 58 | 59 |    |    |    |    |    |
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| 66 |    |    |    |    | 67 |    |    |    |    |    | 68 |    |    |    |

#### I Am





Great, LO-M. Do you speak Bocce? I'm supposed to find one that speaks Bocce.

# SARCASM, MATH, AND LANGUAGE

by Randall Munroe

#### Alice and Bob

I'M SURE YOU'VE HEARD ALL ABOUT THIS SORDID AFFAIR IN THOSE GOSSIPY CRYPTOGRAPHIC PROTOCOL SPECS WITH THOSE BUSYBODIES SCHNEIER AND RIVEST, ALWAYS TAKING ALICE'S SIDE, ALWAYS LABELING ME THE ATTACKER.



YES, IT'S TRUE. I BROKE BOB'S PRIVATE KEY AND EXTRACTED THE TEXT OF HER MESSAGES. BUT DOES ANYONE REALIZE HOW MUCH IT HURT?



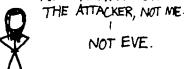
HE SAID IT WAS NOTHING, BUT EVERYTHING FROM THE PUBLIC-KEY ANTHENTICATED SIGNATURES ON THE FILES TO THE LIPSTICK HEART SMEARED ON THE DISK SCREAMED "ALICE."



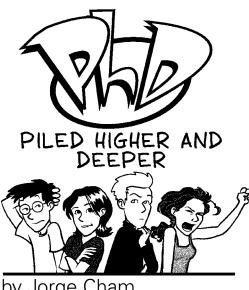
DIDN'T WANT TO BELIEVE. OF COURSE ON SOME LEVEL I REALIZED IT WAS A KNOWN-PLAINTEXT ATTACK. BUT I COULDN'T ADMIT IT UNTIL



SO BEFORE YOU SO QUICKLY LABEL ME A THIRD PARTY TO THE COMM-UNICATION, JUST REMEMBER: I LOVEDHIM FIRST. WE HAD SOMETHING AND SHE / TORE IT AWAY. SHE'S

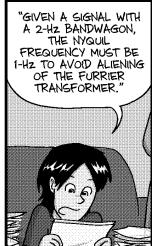


Yet one more reason I'm barred from speaking at crypto conferences.



by Jorge Cham









WWW.PHDCOMICS.COM

# **Easy Sudoku**

Solution, page 14

| 2<br>5 |   |   | 3 | 8 |   |   |   | 6 |
|--------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 5      | 8 | 6 | 9 |   | 1 |   | 2 |   |
|        |   |   |   | 4 |   |   |   |   |
|        |   | 1 |   |   |   | 9 | 8 |   |
|        |   | 3 |   | 2 |   | 7 |   |   |
|        | 9 | 8 |   |   |   | 3 |   |   |
|        |   |   |   | 6 |   |   |   |   |
|        | 6 |   | 1 |   | 3 | 2 | 9 | 7 |
| 1      |   |   |   | 9 | 7 |   |   | 8 |

# Hard Sudoku

Solution, page 14

|   |   |   | 3 |   |   | 2 | 4 | 6 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
|   | 2 | 8 | 6 | 9 |   |   |   |   |
|   |   | 3 |   | 7 | 2 |   |   |   |
|   | 5 |   |   |   | 8 |   | 1 |   |
|   |   | 6 |   |   |   | 8 |   |   |
|   | 9 |   | 2 |   |   |   | 7 |   |
|   |   |   | 1 | 5 |   | 7 |   |   |
|   |   |   |   | 2 | 6 | 5 | 9 |   |
| 5 | 8 | 2 |   |   | 7 |   |   |   |

8 THE TECH FRIDAY, MARCH 5, 2010

#### **MOVIE REVIEW**

# Scorsese taps into the core of fear

Shutter Island is an exercise in indulgence and mind games

**By Jeff Chen** 

From the very start of Shutter Island, even in the opening credits, director Martin Scorsese is out to mess with minds. The first frames of the movie show a vomiting Leonardo DiCaprio, hunched pitifully over the toilet of a rusty ferry, stricken by the ruthless waves and impossibly thick fog. "Get it together, Teddy," he coughs. Scorsese has no time for pleasant introductions. The ominous music never ceases.

As with the opening scene, the entire premise of Shutter Island is delicious and unsettling. Two duly appointed federal marshals travel to Shutter Island, a mental ward for the criminally insane, to investigate the disappearance of one of its patients. During their stay, the marshals discover oddities in the behaviors of both the ward's patients

There ought to be, I think, such a thing as the Leonardo DiCaprio Scale of Acting, which covers the spectrum of his typecast characters. On the left, there is Jack from Titanic — young, fresh-scrubbed and dashing. In the middle of the spectrum there is Howard Hughes from The Aviator, an unstable concoction of gallantry and neurotic genius. Then, a few long strides to the right: Teddy Daniels from Shutter Island. In essence, Teddy is the character DiCaprio has wanted to play his entire life. Teddy is a heroic figure, no doubt about that, but deeply troubled by past traumas. He smokes excessively, his brow is permanently furrowed in thought and he is plagued by lingering pain. He's smart, but erratic, and one wonders how he ever got a job in law enforcement.

DiCaprio is the perfect lead for the role, and since we experience Shutter Island only through his unreliable eyes, we don't know what to believe. And doesn't uncertainty form the core of all of our fears? Imagine

learning that a meteor will crash into the Earth, destroying all life, within the next year. The only problem is, no one knows exactly when it will appear. How will you live your days? Now imagine that you know the precise date and time it will fall. Does that change your plans?

Scorsese understands this principle, and is relentless in his assault. He uses cheap suspense tactics with relish. He cranks up the music, pieces normally reserved to tie a knot in the audiences' hearts just before a climactic explosion, during perfectly normal scenes, like a car ride or a walk in the rain. He hides facts in unreliable narrators. He confuses the au-

dience with rapid, mysterious shots, some that end too early, and some that overstay their welcome. A woman, igniting into flames. Dead children, frozen in a block of ice. They come without warning, without explanation.

There is one scene that does particularly well to emphasize the uneasiness you feel throughout the entire movie. Teddy and Chuck are interviewing the patients in the therapy group of the missing patient. One lady asks for a glass of water, prompting Chuck to leave. While Chuck is away, she



Leonardo Dicaprio is all furrowed eyebrows and inner angst in Scorsese's newest thriller.

grabs Teddy's notebook and scribbles down one word. The piercing screech of a violin fills the emptiness of the theater. Chuck comes back with the water. She picks it up and drinks it. Cue split-second spliced shots of her drinking with no glass in hand, her putting the glass down empty, and a cut showing the glass half full again. Later on in the film, Teddy rushes to the cemetery in the pouring rain, looking for a hidden body. Absent mindedly, he checks his notebook, and finds the word the lady wrote down.

Wouldn't you like to know what it was?

**Shutter Island** 

**Directed by Martin Scorsese** 

Starring Leonardo DiCaprio, Mark Ruffalo, Michelle Williams, Emily Mortimer

Rated R, Now Playing

#### **CONCERT REVIEW**

# If high school's a bitch, become a rock star

Rogue Wave's special brand of honest, tender rock

By Matt Fisher

Returning from a hiatus that has kept them off the stage and out of the spotlight for the last couple of years, Rogue Wave kicked off the American portion of their latest tour at the Paradise Rock Club in Boston. Sporting a new keyboardist and a fairly recent guitarist, Rogue Wave sprouted no pretension in the two years since their last studio visit, playing more than 100 minutes of honest, earnest rock to the mostly full 'Dise.

Founded in 2002, Rogue Wave attracted a "college plus" aged crowd, that eluded the standard categorizations of "hipster," "indie," and "early-thirties music enthusiast," and shed some light on the diverse, almost disparate groups of people that enjoy their music. While not particularly en ergetic, the crowd knew the band's work well, and were vocal about the songs they would like to hear. In an unusual display of attentiveness, the lead singer changed their planned encore, acquiescing to a slew of requests for one of the band's best songs, "Chicago X 12."

For a band as dependent on layered vocal harmonies as Rogue Wave, playing such a long, extemporaneous show with a new line-up was bold. Thankfully, everyone in the band capably executed their assigned roles. While louder and a little rawer than their albums, Rogue Wave's live-sound differs only slightly from their recorded work. This might be a function of their songs' tendency toward harmony and melody over rhythm and musical acrobatics. I personally wouldn't have objected to a louder mix, but counting the pairs of ear-plugs among the audience's oxford-wearing members, the prevalence of this preference was questionable.

About half of the songs played on Monday were off their new album Permalight, available March 2. The new songs share the same layered, major-key make-up of the band's previous works. Two new songs "We Will Make a Song Destroy" and Rogue Wave

Paradise Rock Club March 1st, 2010

"Sleepwalker" — seem to experiment with slightly heavier bass lines, and the remaining new songs seemed more electric than the songs off their earlier albums. The rest of the show was devoted to the more popular songs from their catalog, including "Like I Needed," "Bird On a Wire," and the full-sounding "Harmonium."

Talkative and funny, lead singer Zach Rogue frequently chatted with the audience over the course of the evening, carrying on several prolonged conversations, from likening his rock career to his bar-

cessfully pursue women in high school. (Don't feel too bad; there were several vociferous offers made from women in the audience to assuage this traumatic pain.) In addition to frequent crowd polls, Rogue made an impassioned appeal on behalf of the band's drummer for the National Kidney Foundation, citing them as responsible for their drummer's life.

Despite having little in common sonically with Elliott Smith or Brendan Benson, Rogue Wave songs possess a "singer/songwriter" quality uncommon to most rock groups. Possibly explained by Rogue's emotive vocal style, I believe that the reason is different: Rogue Wave songs lack the affected artifice in which other similar-sounding bands bathe. Almost all Rogue Wave songs take their title from their central refrain and address biographical events. Nerdy in more ways than mitzah, to discussing his inability to suc- one, their lyrics include references to both

classical literature and Star Wars (specifically, the lyrics from "Like I needed" that twice repeat "not the droids you are looking for"). The personal content mixed with straightforward song constructions and a dearth of technical hubris make their songs sound honest and empathetic. To me, no longer a nerdy high school student solely because of matriculation, the lyrics are inclusive and kind. The personal connection that listeners form with Rogue Wave's music clearly explains the diversity of the crowd.

While not propelling the music industry forward with innovation or biting the heads of quivering animals to make news, Rogue Wave is nevertheless a band that has captured its audience and found its stride. Rogue promised to return in September. Try them out; maybe they will speak to your awkward high school phase



COURTESY OF FRESH CLEAN MEDIA

Rogue Wave transcends indie labels, weaving nerdy charm into its earnest rock songs.

#### CONCERT REVIEW

# **Perfectly inappropriate**

Bad Taste was shocking, disgusting, horrible, and delightful, as usual

> By Linlin Huang STAFF WRITER

Most of us remember our first times — especially if in the process we were rapped painfully on the head several times by streaming toilet paper rolls.

Yes, I'm talking about Bad Taste. An MIT tradition, the nth Annual Concert in Bad Taste showcases the MIT Chorallaries at their raunchiest, most politically incorrect, offensive, and entertaining. It's the result of countless late nights of planning, traditionally held in Athena clusters. On the night of the event, fans begin the queue as much as 72 hours in advance for a chance to experience the offensiveness first hand.

#### nth Annual Concert in Bad Taste

The MIT Chorallaries 26-100

February 7, 2010

Last Saurday, the long wait, the pushing, shoving and sweat-impregnated air were all worth it when a naked Asian man carrying a black box sauntered nonchalantly into 26-100, the same lecture hall shared by the likes of Eric Lander and the creator of XKCD. After mounting the

table and artfully dogging several well-aimed toilet paper rolls, he began enunciating this year's long List of the Offended.

This year's performance included Thomas M. Ciesielski '11 reading of the best quips from I Saw You MIT read, and a bed time story narrated by the Blue Boy, Brian G. Coffee '13, who just stepped into the realm of adulthood.

And of course, there was Michael R. Blaisse '10, who pulled off a hilariously convincing Lady Gaga.

The I Saw You MIT updates say it all: "I saw you...at Bad Taste, on stage, as Lady Gaga. Was your muffin really bluffin? I hope not. I have a Crisco stick I could use your help with."



YUANYU CHEN—THE TECH

Hao Ding '10 reads the "List of the Offended," a (non-exclusive) list of everyone who may get offended by the songs or skits during the concert.



YUANYU CHEN—THE TECH Cecilia R. Louis '10 sings the Bad Taste rendition of "Halo" by Beyonce, this time based on the XBOX video game Halo, including lyrics such as "kick your ass in Halo."



YUANYU CHEN-THE TECH

Lady Gaga (Michael R. Blaisse '10) shares the Chorallaries' version of "One Fish, Two Fish, Next Fish, New Fish" as Hannah S. Israel '12 holds the picture book up for the audience to see. The story mocked the sexual lives of MIT students, and included rhymes such as "But [MIT girls] spend all their time learning Einstein and Feynman, and don't leave enough time for breaking the hymen!"

#### **FEATURE**

# Making the most of restaurant week 2010

Five tips for experiencing Boston's finest on the cheap

**By Tracy Kambara** STAFF WRITER

#### 5. Know the basics

Restaurant Week is actually a two-week event that happens twice a year, once in March and once in August. Hundreds of Boston's best (and priciest) restaurants prepare special menus at discounted prices. From March 14-19th and 21-26th, these restaurants will be offering 2-course lunches for \$15.10, 3-course lunches for \$20.10 and 3-course dinners for \$33.10. See restaurantweekboston.com for full listings.

#### 4. Find menus online

The last thing you want for your Restaurant Week experience is to sit down at your table and realize that the prices are the same as the regular menu, and that nothing on it sounds delicious. Some establishments participate in Restaurant Week to make themselves look upscale and high-end, but in reality are nothing more than Olive Gardens in disguise. Most restaurants have already posted their Restaurant Week menus on their websites. It might spoil the surprise to know your options in advance, but it's better than realizing that you'll be eating a lettuce leaf and half a chicken leg for lunch. Compare their Restaurant Week menu to their regular menu; if it seems like they've significantly cheapened their menu, avoid it. The best places offer similar options between the two menus.

#### 3. Make reservations

During these two weeks, penny-pinching gastronomes all over Boston will be roaming the restaurants around town. Don't expect to be seated without a reservation, especially if you choose a good spot. Make your reservations now if you haven't already. OpenTable is a free website for making reservations, and most Restaurant Week locations use it. It will tell you what time slots are still available for your party size, and you can easily change or cancel your

reservation. As an added bonus, with each OpenTable reservation you make (and fulfill), you are one step closer to earning a Dining Cheque, a gift certificate to any OpenTable restaurant. Talk about killing two birds with one stone.

#### 2. Not all restaurants were created

Duh. But this is especially true during Restaurant Week, when everyone is serving meals for the same price. Not all restaurants participate in both lunch and dinner, nor do they all have weekend availabilities. On the same token, some restaurants, like L'Espalier, have extended their participation; L'Espalier is offering their Restaurant Week menu for the entire month. Aquitaine, among other places, is offering discounted wine pairings to go with your meal.

#### 1. Tip Well

Yes, you are paying for a discounted meal at a nice restaurant. I've never worked as a

server, but I can only imagine how stressful these two weeks must be for waiters and waitresses. People who normally would not step foot inside their restaurants march on in, expecting to be blown away by the fourstar ratings they've read in the Boston Globe. They get upset when they show up for their 7 p.m. reservation on a Friday night and their table isn't ready yet. They ask questions about the menu that regular clients would never dare ask (FYI: coq au vin is braised chicken cooked in wine, tagliatelle is a type of pasta, and arancini refers to fried risotto balls). And when the check comes, they leave a measly 15 percent tip on their \$33.10 meal (they drank tap). Don't be that customer from hell, especially if you insist on wearing your MIT sweatshirt. For good service, tip 20to-25 percent at minimum, or at least 15 percent of how much your meal would have cost at any other time during the year. The meals may be cheaper for you, but the servers are still getting paid the same amount. At the end of the day, it's just good karma.

10 THE TECH FRIDAY, MARCH 5, 2010

# EZRide bus would replace Northwest Shuttle

## Plan would add EZRide stops on campus and increase operating hours



NICHOLAS CHORNAY—THE TECH

MIT may stop running the Northwest Shuttle and ask students to use another free local bus instead.

#### Northwest Shuttle, from Page 1

all day, from 7:25 a.m. from 6:41 p.m., while EZRide runs only during rush hours, from 6:20 a.m. to 10:20 a.m. and 3 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. EZRide does not stop at 77 Massachusetts Avenue or the Stata Center, like the Northwest Shuttle does.

The plan, once fully developed, must be approved by the Charles River Transporation Management Association, of which MIT is the largest member, and then by the City of Cambridge, said Brutti.

The changes could go into effect as soon as this summer.

MIT Facilities is working with the Graduate Student Council to come up with a plan that will make the Northwest Shuttle's elimination less of an inconvenience to students who use it.

Currently, EZRide does not have a GPS locator for the NextBus sys-

"It's a good business move," said Brutti. "The goal is to reduce cost while enhancing service."

tem, which allows students to track up-to-date bus location via the NextBus website. Brutti said that GPS locators will be installed in the EZRide buses if they replace the Northwest shuttle.

Wendy Lam G, Chair of the GSC

Housing and Community Affairs Committee, said that Brutti has been "open" and "receptive" to students' concerns about replacing Northwest shuttle services.

Brutti said this project is separate from the Institute-wide Planning Task Force Report recommendations, which call for the possible reduction or elimination of redundant bus routes.

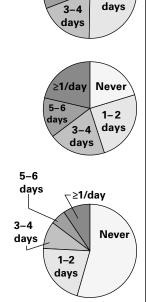
Brutti said that the plan to replace the Northwest shuttle has been in the works for four years. The idea has been laying dormant but was revived when an MIT thesis by Aimee K. Beasley '08 entitled "Sustainable Transport at MIT: Improving Area Bus Services" presented the idea among several others to improve bus route efficiency.

Brutti is working to make the

During a typical week this semester, how often did you use the MIT Shuttle services?

If MIT eliminated the Boston Daytime shuttle and gave out free MBTA bus passes, valid on all bus routes (including the 1 bus), how often would you use it in a typical week?

If MIT eliminated the Boston Daytime shuttle and offered free rides on the MASCO M2 bus, how often would you use it in a typical week?



SOURCE: UNDERGRADUATE ASSOCIATION FALL 2009 STUDENT SURVEY

Many students use shuttles but few use the M2, according to a UA survey.

Tech Shuttle run more on time by reorganizing the route and relocating some stops. In particular, he wants to relocate the 77 Massachusetts Ave. to a stop closer to the MIT Chapel.

EZRide does not stop at 77 Massachusetts Avenue or the Stata Center, like the Northwest Shuttle.

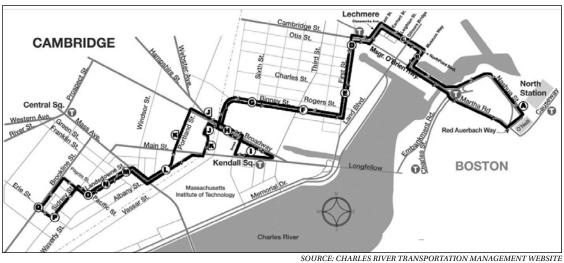
#### The UA Releases Survey Results

The UA recently released the results of a fall 2009 student survey about the MIT shuttle services.

Over 1000 students participated in the survey, which asked questions about the current services as well as possible future services.

Among those who participated in the survey, 94 percent of students used the shuttle services at least once during the semester. On average, students ranked their satisfaction with the current services a 4.5 on a scale of 1 to 7.

The UA survey also asked questions regarding possible future alternatives to the shuttle services. One proposed alternative was replacing the Boston Daytime shuttle with free MBTA passes for students. Of the 1043 respondents, about 20 percent said they would use the service 3 to 4 days a week. Another 20 percent said they would never use it.

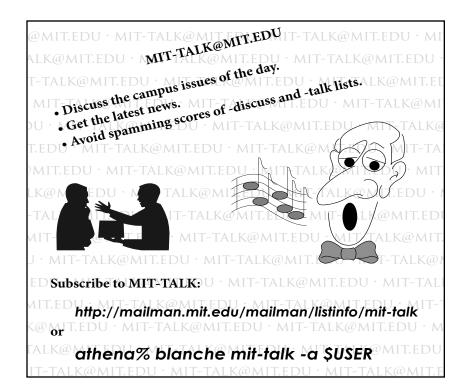


**EZRide runs through campus and also visits north Boston.** MIT pays \$300,000 a year to make the service free with an MIT ID. EZRide does not operate from 10:20 a.m–3:00 p.m. If MIT were to shut down the North-

west Shuttle, it would ask EZRide add extra MIT stops and extend its hours.

SOURCE: MIT FACILITIES WEBSITE

The Northwest Shuttle ferries students between main campus and the graduate dorms. Cutting this service would save MIT \$200,000.





**On Wednesday, Paulina A. Sliwa G, a mezzo soprano, performed her Emerson Scholar recital** along with Lindy L. Blackburn G (piano) and Zi Y Ji '10 (viola). They played pieces by Brahms, Chopin, Purcell, and Handel.

FRIDAY, MARCH 5, 2010 **THE TECH 11** 

# **Une operator per** train on Orange Line

#### Change will save MBTA money

By Noah Bierman

THE BOSTON GLOBE

The MBTA will stop using two employees to run each Orange Line train, part of a plan approved by the agency's board Wednesday to balance next year's budget without raising fares or cutting service.

The Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority is one of the few transit systems in the world that still use two operators to run a single set of subway cars. Past attempts to change the practice have met with strong union opposition. The second operator, who sits in the middle of each train set, has little responsibility beyond opening and closing doors and making station announcements.

The Blue Line switched to a single operator more than a decade ago without affecting safety or service. The Green and Red lines will continue to depend on two operators under the latest plan because managers say those lines have com-

The change on the Orange Line is expected to save \$1.5 million a year, less than the \$3.3 million estimated last year and a small fraction of the T's \$73 million operating deficit for the coming budget

plications that need study.

"It's the kind of efficiencies we need to bring to the organization," said Jeffrey Mullan, transportation secretary. "It does not affect customer service. It does not affect service."

The change on the Orange Line is expected to save \$1.5 million a year, less than the \$3.3 million estimated last year and a small fraction of the T's \$73 million operating deficit for the coming budget year, which begins July 1.

To make up most of its shortfall, the T will refinance \$67.9 million in debt, a practice that has been a persistent concern of watchdogs and outside reviewers, who have expressed concern that the T's \$8.6 billion debt load will continue to grow larger as problems get pushed off into the future. Payments on the debt, which will make up nearly one-fourth of every operating dollar the agency spends next year, have left the T struggling with a budget gap nearly every year.

The Orange Line move will eliminate 15 operators' jobs, from layoffs and attrition.

Governor Deval Patrick, who is up for reelection this year, announced in November that fare increases would be put off until at least July 2011. Wednesday's news that the T would also resist cuts in

bus routes or train service for at least another year came as a relief to passengers.

"It's important to everybody," said Mike Tomasini, 16, a student at Boston Latin School who was riding the Red Line home to Dorchester Wednesday.

His classmate, Kevin Baptista, agreed that people who depend on the T would be hurt by any loss in service: "There's enough time between trains as it is."

Mullan defended the decision to refinance debt. He said it made financial sense this year, given historically low interest rates. He said the impact on the T's overall debt portfolio would be minimal.

"Today was a good day for people who use the T," he said. "We were able to close the budget for next year without impacting service."

But the T will continue to have financial challenges, even in the short term. The budget approved Wednesday assumes no salary increases for the majority of labor union employees, whose contracts expire June 30. And the down economy has meant fewer people are paying to ride the MBTA's buses and

To reduce staff on the Orange Line, the T has spent the past several months adding mirrors to stations and making other modifications that will allow drivers to see the entire platform. Operators will be trained in about two weeks in anticipation of moving to a single driver on June 23.

The Boston Carmen's Union, Local 589, which represents subway operators, has been working with MBTA managers on the issue, but continues to oppose it, worrying that the T would have fewer employees available to evacuate passengers in case of fire or other emergency.

'We're uncertain whether or not it's something that can be done effectively, efficiently, and safely for the workforce and for the passengers," said Stephan MacDougall, union president.

MacDougall said the T has promised to address the union's concerns as they arise, but "at the end of the day you have less people and we carry extremely precious cargo, and there's a lot of lives on the line."

In addition to approving the MBTA's operating budget Wednesday, the MBTA board also delayed voting on a plan to spend \$2 million to study a more modern automated safety system for the Green Line. Federal safety officials have said a better crash prevention system could have prevented a 2008 fatal accident on the line in Newton

Janice Loux, MBTA board member, questioned the \$2 million contract, saying she has been frustrated that the MBTA's staff has yet to offer the board a detailed explanation of its Green Line safety plan following the 2008 crash and a second serious crash a year later. She said she also had concerns that the contract under consideration Wednesday did not deal broadly enough with Green Line safety issues.

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Week 2: ATTACK OF THE CLONES March 16 – Romans 6:15-23

Week 3: REVENGE OF THE SITH March 30 – Ephesians 4:17-25

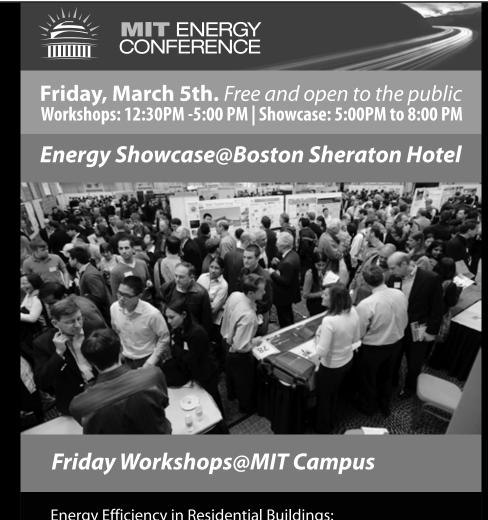
Week 4: **STAR WARS: A NEW HOPE** 

April 6 - Acts 2:14-36

Week 5: THE EMPIRE STRIKES BACK

April 13 – Matthew 7:13-24

Week 6: RETURN OF THE JEDI April 20 – It's a Secret



**Energy Efficiency in Residential Buildings:** 

Challenges and Opportunities

12:30-4:30 PM 34-101

**Social and Consumer Benefits** of Electric Vehicles

12:30-2:30 PM 4-237

Technology and Policy in Commercializing Solar: What Works?

2:30-4:30 PM 4-163

Clean Energy Finance: Is Clean Energy the Next Bubble?

2:30-5:00 PM *E25-111* 

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12 THE TECH FRIDAY, MARCH 5, 2010

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FRIDAY, MARCH 5, 2010 THE TECH 13

# Layoffs likely if Medical cuts overnight services

#### Care Center services may be offered this fall

Medical, from Page 1

Kettyle said the changes would be rolled out gradually: Nurses would start to provide Community Care Center services during the fall of 2010 before the inpatient unit and overnight urgent care close in order to assess the efficacy of the new system before fully committing to

Without maintaining the current overnight services, Medical will be able to devote more resources to following up with patients, Kettyle emphasized.

The new system will likely be "a way of taking advantage of what's available that's in operation 24-7 and making best use of facilities while still providing on-campus service," Kettyle said. The changes would allow Medical to maximiz[e] resource utilization," he said.

More resources would be allocated to following up with patients, Kettyle said, by 'work[ing] closely with housemasters, residential advisors, Housing, Dining Services, and other campus resources to make sure that sick students in dorms and FSILGs are getting appropriate monitoring and care" and provide optional house visits, at the student's discre-

"Sometimes connecting the dots for students is a bit of a challenge," said Clinical Director for Campus Life Maryanne Kirkbride. By expanding the current care management program, Medical will more likely be able to monitor and accommodate student recovery and health, she said.

Kettyle said the cost of visiting off-campus hospitals would stay the same for students using the MIT Student Extended Insurance Plan.

Student directed to local hospitals during overnight hours, however, will be under the jurisdiction of the hospital's confidentially policy rather than Medical's.

#### Use of Medical's inpatient unit

|                   | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 | 2008 | 2009* |
|-------------------|------|------|------|------|-------|
| Admissions        | 406  | 352  | 284  | 260  | 152   |
| Patient days      | 1255 | 1382 | 1050 | 913  | 518   |
| Occupancy         | 25%  | 27%  | 21%  | 18%  | 10%   |
| Avg. daily census | 3.4  | 3.8  | 2.9  | 2.5  | 1.8   |
| Transient visits  | 416  | 526  | 502  | 704  | 898** |

SOURCE: MIT MEDICAL WEBSITE

Since 2005, fewer and fewer people have been staying in the inpatient unit. Occupancy is down from 25 percent in 2005 to 10 percent in 2009.

#### Use of Medical's urgent care service

|                            | 2008       | 2009       |
|----------------------------|------------|------------|
| Total seen (all hours)     | 15,361     | 17,027     |
| Total seen 12 a.m 7 a.m.   | 446 (2.9%) | 459 (2.6%) |
| Where patients went after: |            |            |
| Home                       | 384        | 407        |
| Inpatient Unit             | 17         | 16         |
| Emergency Room             | 24         | 18         |
| Unknown                    | 20         | 18         |

SORUCE: MIT MEDICAL WEBSITE

Only about three percent of all urgent care visits occur between 12 a.m. and 7 p.m. Medical is considering closing urgent care during those hours.



Students take a 7.013 test in Walker memorial on Wednesday morning. This was the first week of exams for many students.

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**14** THE TECH FRIDAY, MARCH 5, 2010

# **UA Presidential/Vice Presidential Tickets**

#### **President:**

Vrajesh Y. Modi '11

#### Major:

2 and 15 dual degree

#### **Living Group:** East Campus

Affiliation:

Hometown: Cranbury, NJ



#### **Vice President:**

Samantha G. Wyman '11

#### Major:

10-C and 18 double major

#### **Living Group:**

**Burton Conner House** 

#### Affiliation: Pi Beta Phi

Hometown: Los Angeles, CA

#### **Vice President:**

Pall M. Kommayer '11

#### Major:

2 with a 24 minor

#### **Living Group:**

Sigma Chi

#### Affiliation: Sigma Chi

Hometown:

Duluth, GA



#### **President:**

Ian P. Tracy '11

#### Major:

2 and 16 double major

#### **Living Group:** Simmons Hall

Affiliation: None

Hometown: Fort Leavenworth, KA

#### (Write-in) **Vice President:**

Jarrett R. Remsberg '11

#### Major:

10-B and 7a double major

#### **Living Group:** Sigma Nu

#### Affiliation: Sigma Nu

Hometown: Middletown, MD



#### (Write-in) **President:**

Ariel A. Torres '11

CMS and 6 joint major

#### **Living Group:** New House

Affiliation:

None Hometown:

Chandler, AZ

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|   | 4                       | 2 | 1 | 7 | 3 | 6 | 9 | 8 | 5   | 2    | 5  | 4 | 7           | 6 | 8  | 3   | 1   | 9 |
|   | 6                       | 5 | 3 | 8 | 2 | 9 | 7 | 1 | 4   | 7    | 3  | 6 | 5           | 1 | 9  | 8   | 2   | 4 |
|   | 7                       | 9 | 8 | 5 | 1 | 4 | 3 | 6 | 2   | 8    | 9  | 1 | 2           | 4 | 3  | 6   | 7   | 5 |
|   | 9                       | 7 | 2 | 4 | 6 | 8 | 5 | 3 | 1   | 3    | 6  | 9 | 1           | 5 | 4  | 7   | 8   | 2 |
|   | 8                       | 6 | 4 | 1 | 5 | 3 | 2 | 9 | 7   | 1    | 4  | 7 | 8           | 2 | 6  | 5   | 9   | 3 |
|   | 1                       | 3 | 5 | 2 | 9 | 7 | 6 | 4 | 8   | 5    | 8  | 2 | 9           | 3 | 7  | 4   | 6   | 1 |

Friday, March 5, 2010

#### Men's Volleyball beats Newbury 3-2



Patrick J. Vatterott '13 leaps for a spike in the men's volleyball match against Newbury College on Tuesday night. The Engineers won the nail-biting match, 3-2.

#### **UPCOMING HOME EVENTS**

#### Saturday, March 6

Women's Tennis vs. New York University Women's Lacrosse vs.. Manhattanville College Men's Volleyball vs. Bard College

Men's Volleyball vs. Milwaukee School of Eng.

Sunday, March 7

Men's Volleyball vs. College of Mt. St. Vincent Men's Volleyball vs. Carthage College 10 a.m., duPont Courts 1 p.m., Jack Barry Field 4:30 p.m., Rockwell Cage

30 p.m., Rockwell Cage 7 p.m., Rockwell Cage

10:30 a.m., Rockwell Cage 1 p.m., Rockwell Cage

# Men's swimming wins fifth NEWMAC title

## Engineers win 15 out of 20 events

By Paul Blascovich

DAPER STAFF

The MIT men's swimming and diving team won 15 of 20 events to defend its NEWMAC Championship. The Engineers,

whose five league titles are one shy of the Coast Guard's NEWMAC record, finished with 1,027 points. Coast Guard came in second with 947.5 points, while Spring-

947.5 points, while Springfield College was third with a score of 673.5

Tech's Lucas R. Cummings '10 played a role in six event victories, anchoring four winning relays and tallying two individual titles. The senior finished first in the 50-yard Free with a NCAA Championship provisional qualifying time ("B-cut") of 21.01 and took the 100 Free crown in a B-cut time of 45.72.

Brendan T. Deveney '13 touched the wall first in the 200 IM (1:54.18), while Matthew R. Chapa '12 (1:54.35) and David C. Parell '12 (1:54.70) rounded out a 1-2-3 sweep of the event for the Cardinal and Gray; all three posted B-cut times in the event. Chapa's time in the preliminaries (1:54.10) set a NEWMAC Championship meet record.

On Saturday, Engineers took the top three spots in the 100 Fly. Chapa (50.27),

Brett L. Boval '12 (50.72) and Toomas R. Sepp '11 (50.83) held off the competition with B-cut times. During the trials, MIT's Wyatt L. Ubellacker '13 also notched a B cut.

Timothy J. Stumbaugh '12 received three All-Conference honors over the weekend, beginning with his winning swim in the 400 IM (4:03.86). His B-cut time in the event marked the only NEW-MAC open record to be set during the weekend; Deveney took second in the event (4:05.42). Stumbaugh also picked up Second-Team honors and B-cut times in the 100 Back (52.13) and 200 Back (1:51.30).

Rastislav Racz '10 closed his NEWMAC career with wins in all four of his races. The breaststroker picked up wins in the 100-yard (57.27) and 200-yard (2:04.02) events and helped both medley relays to victory. Parell took third in both individual events with his swims of 58.17 in the 100 Breast and 2:07.75 in the 200 Breast.

Two other Engineers notched individual wins: Michael J. Dobson '11 won the 500 Free (4:36.45) and 1650 Free (16:02.04), and Sepp took the 200 Fly (1:53.91).

MIT also won four of the five relays.

MIT's men's and women's teams will now prepare for the NCAA Division III National Championship at the University of Minnesota, March 18-21.

# SCOREBOARD

| Men's Swimming and Diving |          |
|---------------------------|----------|
| Friday-Sunday, 2/26-28    |          |
| NEWMAC Championship       | 1st of 7 |
| Men's Volleyball          |          |
| Tuesday, 3/2              |          |
| vs. Newbury College       | W 3-2    |

**COLUMN** 

# Who cares about men's basketball?

## Student support missing at games

By Russell Spivak
SPORTS EDITOR

The MIT men's basketball team, even after its loss in the NEWMAC tournament this past weekend, are having their most

successful year in the program's 50-plus-year history — did you know?

On a campus that seems to be far too prone to the bandwagon effect, MIT stu-

dents have not come out in full force. For the game in Rockwell last weekend, there were more parents and fans of other teams present than MIT students. Heck, there were more people lined up to see Paul Krugman speak or to watch professors debate hamentashen than to support an MIT team in a conference championship.

"It makes us want to be even better, to force students to come out and support us," said starter Will Tashman '13.

But our campus's apathy isn't the only thing motivating the true freshman to work harder.

Tashman and his teammates are coming off of a tough upset by the Clark Cougars at home last weekend. Monday eased the pain though, as the Cardinal and Grey were given an at-large bid to play for the national championship in the Division III NCAA tournament.

In addition to the team's regular-season NEWMAC title, Noel Hollingsworth '12 and Mitchell H. Kates '13 were given post-season awards. Hollingsworth, after averaging 20.5 points and 9.1 rebounds a game, was named first team All-Conference and Conference Player of the Year, while Kates, averaging 13.3 points, 4.2 assists and a league-leading 2.2 steals a game, was given second team All-Conference honors.

The now number 21-ranked team in the nation, MIT will travel to William Paterson University to square off against DeSales University on Friday, March 5th; following close behind will be a stream of Engineers faithful. DeSales, while not ranked in the top 25, are not to be taken lightly. The Engineers, however, are confident.

"We know who their main guys are, but every game really comes down to us and the way we play...if we come out with intensity and play a smart game, we will have a chance to win every game, no matter who the opponent is," Kates said.

But, how large will that following be? Members of Alpha Phi worked to organize buses for the approximately 1.5 hour trip to Rhode Island for last year's tournament, but this year's site is in New Jersey — a four-hour drive each way. The players would definitely appreciate the support. "I hope they come out in full force," says Tashman, "but we understand that it is a pretty long drive."

While a small crowd can be expected, given the MIT workload, there has been an inexcusably small following for a team that has had so much success, especially for such big games. Almost a quarter of MIT students play a varsity sport and almost three-quarters play a club or intramural sport, yet apathy for athletics pervades our campus.

The game is Friday, March 5 at 6 p.m. hosted by William Paterson University in Wayne, N.J.

Free bus rides to and from the game will be provided for students on Friday, if is enough interest — a big if. If there is, and the administration decides to proceed with the plan, the buses will leave around 1 p.m. from behind the Z-Center on Vassar Street. Student who haven't reserved a ride yet are encouraged to show up to see if there are extra open spots.

In MIT wins and advances on Friday, there will also be an effort to get buses back to William Paterson University for Saturday's game. Students are encouraged to contact Kristen Whaley at whaley@mit. edu to reserve a spot. The time has yet to be determined.

With this recent success, I ask only one thing of the MIT community: support our team, prove me wrong about our apathy.

# Who should lead the Undergraduate Association?

# The Tech will host the Presidential Ticket Debate

on Sunday, March 7th at 8:00pm on the first floor of the Stratton Student Center.

Have a question for the candidates? Send it to opinion@tech.mit.edu by 4pm this afternoon.

16 THE TECH FRIDAY, MARCH 5, 2010

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